

SUPPLEMENT TO THE NŪR AFSHĀN

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Editorial.

NEWS AND NOTES.

The appeal sent home by the Lndhiana Mission for an extra appropriation has been refused. The Mission must meet after all and see what can be done. The outlook is far from encouraging. No one at this time has a clear idea of what parts of the work will have to suffer. It looks as if some more educational institutions would have to go. We trust in some way this may be avoided.

The Punjab is almost free from Plague.

The Anglo-Indian community is much excited over an attack on the Govt's War Policy by Mr. Thorburn, Financial Commissioner of the Punjab, in a speech at a recent meeting of the United Service Institution.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

Many subscriptions fall due July 1st. Other subscriptions regarding which special arrangements have been made, are now six months over due. Every subscriber has received a statement of his account. Will not

every one knowing himself to be indebted to the Nūr Afshan, send the amount due, so as to reach the office before the 25th and thus relieve the Manager from the additional burden of sending out reminders.

In the present war with Spain, the soldiers of the United States believe that they are fighting to make men free and not for the mere glory of their country. This is the tone which animates home papers. However strange it may seem that men should acknowledge the spirit of unselfishness, it is nevertheless true that this spirit was the controlling element in the declaration of war against Spain. The spirit of mere conquest and national glory could not have rallied the people around the Commander-in-Chief as they have been rallied.

Some one has said, "Let me make the songs of a nation and I care not who makes the laws."

The people of America are exceedingly rich in war-songs and other national hymns which express a devout spirit of trust in God. The hymn entitled "America" finds a place in all selections of hymns for the worship of God. It is sung to the tune of "God save the Queen" and the words run thus:

My country 'tis of thee,
Sweet land of liberty,
Of thee I sing;
Land where my fathers died
Land of the Pilgrims' pride,
From every mountain side,
Let Freedom ring

Our Fathers God, to thee
Author of liberty,
To Thee we sing.
Long may our land be bright,
With Freedom's holy light,
Protect us by Thy might,
Great God, our king.

The song, however, which is the most powerful in its appeal to the best and noblest in the nation's life is one which appeared early in the war of 1861-5 and is by Julia Ward Howe. The words came to her in a dream at night. When she awoke, she at once arose and wrote them. As soon as the words were published, they spread like wild fire from East to West. The tune is "John Brown's Body."

Battle Hymn of the Republic.

Mine eyes have seen the glory of the
coming of the Lord;
He is trampling out the vintage where the
grapes of wrath are stored;
He hath loosed the fateful lightning of
his terrible swift sword;
His truth is marching on.

I have seen him in the watch-fires of a
hundred circling camps;
They have builded him an altar in the
evening dews and damps;
I have read his righteous sentence by the
dim and flaring lamps;
His day is marching on.

I have read a fiery gospel, writ in burn-
ished rows of steel;
"As ye deal with my contemners so with
you my grace shall deal.
Let the Hero, born of woman, crush the ser-
pent with his heel,
Since God is marching on.

He has sounded forth the trumpet that
shall never call retreat;
He is sifting out the hearts of men before
his judgment seat;
O, be swift, my soul, to answer him, be ju-
bilant, my feet!
Our God is marching on.

In the beauty of the like Christ was born
across the sea;
With a glory in his bosom that transfigures
you and me,
As he died to make men holy let us die to
make men free,
While God is marching on.

The C. M. S. Anniversary sermon
was preached this year by the Rev. H.
C. G. Moule, D. D. of Ridley Hall,
Cambridge in St Brides' Church, Lon-
don. He is known as a man of rare
spiritual power and his writings rank
with those of Murray and Meyer as be-
ing of proved value in stimulating rea-
ders to a life of victory over sin. He
emphasizes in his sermon that the old
gospel is ever new: it is as well suited
for the 20th century as for the first.
The following is part of his sermon.

"Once more, I dare to affirm it, not
only here and there, and at times,
but at all times and in all places, this
is the Gospel. It is this, it is this
alone, which carries with it those two
contrasted yet profoundly connected
notes, that man's temptation is to be
ashamed of it, and that to believing
man it is the power of God unto
salvation. It is abundantly possible to
construct a would-be-Gospel of which
it would be as easy not to be ashamed
as it is easy not to be ashamed of
the Platonic philosophy, or of the Kan-
tain. Into such "another Gospel" may
be inserted sublime conceptions of
God, and of man, and breathings after
an immaculate purity, and sentiments
of universal sympathy, and promises
of a golden future, interminable and
serene. But the true Gospel, by its
own account, is a thing which man

tends to be ashamed of, and which yet
alone can come to him, and take him,
and lift him up to God's own high
places. And it is this because it in-
sists upon approaching man as first a
sinner, guilty, under sentence; no
mere unfortunate, waylaid upon the
by-paths of the Universe, fallen among
thieves, but a criminal, and in the grasp
of law.

Its purpose with him is not benig-
ant only but glorious. It means to
do much more than to restore him
to himself. It will transfigure him;
it will give him power to become a
son of God; it will make him partaker
of the divine nature; it will seat him
in the heavenly places with his Lord.
He shall tread upon all the power of
the enemy, more than conquerer
through Him that loved him. He shall
never die; he shall appear with Christ
in glory; he shall be like Him, seeing
Him as He is. But antecedent to
all this, and in direct order to it,
the Gospel has to deal with man as
not an unfortunate, but a sinner. It
has to stop his mouth of the last falter-
ing self-justification, and to teach Him
how to put out a mere mendicant hand
to take a mere free pardon, totally
undeserved, and so to be welcomed
in another's name, and henceforth
to know no master, and no power,
and no hope, beside Him who has
loved him the unlovely, and given
Himself for him the guilty.

And this is what the flesh is ashamed
of. And this is the power of God
unto salvation. And this is the in-
most note and difference of the Gos-
pel for the whole world, unalterable
as the race of man and as the Christ
of God. So it was in 1799. So it is
to-day; so it shall be in the unknown
twentieth century, yea, and *usque ad-
tubam*, till the trumpet shall sound,
till the Lord shall come again, and
all the saints with Him. Even so come,
Lord Jesus.

Is this old Gospel of the Cross a
narrow Gospel? Yes; just as narrow
as the gate and as the way of which
our Master spoke of old. Is it a
narrow Gospel? No; in its beating
heart, warm with the blood of the
Atonement, there lie, always ready
for infinite expansion, all the bless-
ings, for eternity and for time, lodg-
ed for us by the Father in the Son,
and liberated for us by the sacrifice
of His death; for ever blessed be His
Name.

In that Name our missionaries,
"the messengers of the Churches, and
the glory of Christ," go to all the

nations. They go to teach them many
things, yea, all things which He has
commanded. They go to gather and
to combine; to minister the Lord's
ordinances; to build up men in the
Lord's Body; to equip His disciples
for His service; to lead them out in-
to His holy war. But first and most
they go to preach, and to glorify, His
Cross.

For themselves, that Cross, borne,
for their own salvation, is the Divine
peace and power for their suffering as
for their witness. In that Sign they
conquer. It is their victory beneath
the tropic sun and upon the arctic
ice; in the long patience of the mani-
fold plowing and sowing, and in the
joys of the harvest-home of souls.
And it is all in all to them when the
Master calls His beloved servant aside,
and bids him bow down and glorify
God by dying—in the shipwreck on
the Indian deep, amidst the death-
damps of the Niger, by the gunshot
beside the Lake of the Equator, by the
murderer's sword in Sierra Leone".

The Christian Patriot in an edi-
torial on "The Preaching of Native
Pastors" gives the following practi-
cal hints.

"May we venture in this connection
to give a few practical hints to our
Native pastors. We fear that most
of them do not devote sufficient time
to the careful preparation of their ser-
mons. Ill-digested thoughts, incohe-
rent and ill-connected lines of reason-
ing, are to be met with in the sermons
of many of our pastors. Some of the
greatest and most gifted preachers in
England are known to devote a very
large portion of their time during the
week to the preparation of their ser-
mons. It is this want of preparation
that renders many a sermon quite in-
sippid and powerless. We must also
protest against the prevailing tendency
among native clergymen, who under-
stand English, of reading English
sermons and trying to convey the
ideas they have borrowed to their
hearers in the Vernaculars. Even the
illustrations often used in Indian
Sermons are English or foreign. Hence
the lack of originality, which is a
serious defect in the sermons of In-
dian clergymen. Our clergymen should
also learn to condense their thoughts
and preach short sermons. We should
think that a sermon lasting for twenty
or twenty-five minutes, if it is care-
fully thought out and rendered with-
out needless repetitions, will be quite
sufficient for any congregation. As
it is however, a large number of our
preachers take 40 minutes and some-
times even an hour and more. As a
rule, such long and tedious sermons
contain a great deal of needless repeti-

tions, and are perfectly disgusting to intelligent audiences. Our preachers would also do well to deliver their sermons in as natural a tone as possible. As soon as a clergyman mounts the pulpit, he thinks that it is his duty, to bellow out in the most unnatural manner possible instead of speaking quietly and naturally. Above all, we would suggest that our pastors should pray over their sermons, that they should throw themselves at the feet of their Lord and Master, and thus get strength and inspiration for their message to their congregations. If only our pastors knew the unique opportunities which they possess, Sabbath after Sabbath, for influencing for good their congregations, they would be more deeply earnest in the performance of their duty in the pulpit. The pulpit may also be used as an engine of moral regeneration. It is impossible to estimate the effect which earnest sermons that inculcate habits of temperance, thrift, active benevolence, etc., will have on Native Christian audiences.

We have jotted above merely a few disjointed thoughts on this all-important subject of preaching; but we trust that what we have said will not have been said in vain; and that this article will lead, not merely to an intelligent discussion of the subject, but will also do some practical good in raising the tone of preaching of the Native Pastors."

We should like to further emphasize the matter of special preparation. Constant and systematic Bible Study and the careful writing of at least one sermon a week seem to us absolutely essential to success. Owing to lack of this thing sermons are often made up of only semi-appropriate illustrations and matters are brought in which have no connection with the subject proposed. If some preachers' texts were the small-pox they would not take the infection because they do not get near enough.

What congregations need are clear ideas definitely expressed. Study and thought are required to secure this to be by an overflow of mere words and a paucity of ideas.

Selection.

Great Sayings on a Great Book.

13. Every SCRIPTURE is to be interpreted by the same spirit which gave it forth.—*Quoted by Emerson.*

14. Never make a jest of any SCRIPTURE expressions.—*Judge Hale.*

15. SCRIPTURE, like Nature, lays down no definitions.—*Spinoza.*

16. The BIBLE contains many truths as yet undiscovered.—*Butler.*

17. The BIBLE is the great family chronicle of the Jews.—*Heine.*

18. Men can make an idol of the BIBLE.—*Henry Ward Beecher.*

19. The BIBLE tells us what Christian graces are; but it is in the struggle of life that we are to find them.—*H. W. Beecher.*

20. Sink the BIBLE to the bottom of the ocean, and man's obligations to God would be unchanged. He would have the same path to tread, only his lamp and his guide would be gone; he would have the same voyage to make, only his compass and chart would be overboard.—*H. W. Beecher.*

21. What of books? Hast thou not already a BIBLE to write and publish in print that is eternal, namely, a Life to lead?—*Carlyle.*

22. The Hebrew BIBLE, is it not before all things, true, as no other book ever was or will be?—*Carlyle.*

23. To each nation its believed history is its BIBLE.—*Carlyle.*

24. One BIBLE I know, of whose plenary inspiration doubt is not so much as possible; nay, with my own eyes I saw God's hand writing it, where all other BIBLES are but leaves, say, in picturewriting, to assist the weaker faculty.—*Carlyle.*

25. The BIBLE of a nation, the practically credited God's message to a nation, is, beyond all else, the authentic biography of its heroic souls. This is the real record of the appearances of God in the history of a nation; this, which all men to the marrow of their bones can believe, and which teaches all men what the nature of this universe, when you go to work in it, really is.—*Carlyle.*

26. The only way to understand the difficult parts of the BIBLE is first to read and obey the easy ones.—*Ruskin.*

27. There is nothing so great or so goodly in creation, but it is a mean symbol of the GOSPEL of Christ, and of the things that he has prepared for them that love him.—*Ruskin.*

28. Read your BIBLE, making it the first morning business of your

life to understand some portion of it clearly, and your daily business to obey it in all that you do understand.—*Ruskin.*

29. (The BIBLE) contains plain teaching for men of every rank of soul and state of life, which so far as they honestly and implicitly obey they will be happy and innocent to the utmost powers of their nature, and capable of victory over all adversities, whether of temptation or pain.—*Ruskin.*

30. There are two, and only two, forms of possible GOSPEL or "GOOD MESSAGE"—One that men are saved by themselves doing what is right; and the other that they are saved by believing that somebody else did right instead of them. The first of these GOSPELS is eternally true and holy; the other eternally false, damnable, and damning.—*Ruskin.*

31. If you read the BIBLE with pre-determination to pick out every text you approve of, on these terms you will find it entirely intelligible and wholly delightful; but if you read it with a real purpose of trying to understand it, and obey, and so reap it all through steadily you will find it, out and out, the crabbedest and most difficult book you ever tried.—*Ruskin.*

32. The LAW is what we must do; the GOSPEL what God will give.—*Luther.*

33. God writes the GOSPEL not in the BIBLE alone, but on trees and flowers, and clouds and stars.—*Luther.*

Telegrams.

London, July 5.

An American official despatch states that 1350 of Admiral Cervera's men were killed or drowned and 160 wounded, whilst 1,600 were taken prisoners.

Admiral Cervera fought every inch of the way after leaving the harbour of Santiago: even when his own ship was ablaze and sinking, the Spaniards displayed no signals of surrender, but beached their vessels at various points along the coast extending a distance of six miles, the crews escaping ashore in boats, and the American war ships assisting in rescuing them.

Madrid is full of jubilation over the announcement of the escape of Admiral Cervera's squadron, as the Government is withholding the truth. It is feared that the revulsion of feeling will be terrible when the facts become known.

The Commander of the United States war ship "Gloucester," on receiving Admiral Cervera as a prisoner aboard his ship, congratulated the Admiral on the gallant fight he had made.

MADE IN JAPAN

Six light batteries with four thousand men are on their way to Santiago to reinforce General Shafter's troops.

General Shafter confirms the report of the arrival of the 6,000 Spanish reinforcements at Santiago.

Karachi, July 5.

The results for the 5th show cases 1, deaths 1; totals to date, cases 2,997, deaths 2,352.

The detention of passengers by sea from Karachi will be reduced from the 7th instant to 24 hours instead of ten days.

Bombay, July 6.

The Bombay health returns for the past week show that the total deaths from all causes have fallen to 440 as compared with 500 in previous week. Deaths from plague number 34 as against 53 in the preceding week, a falling off of 15. There were 14 attacks, including three old cases under enquiry, and six deaths from plague reported yesterday.

Allahabad, July 5.

Sir William Lockhart will probably delay his departure from England until the middle of October, arriving in Bombay about November 5th.

Calcutta, July 5.

The Lieutenant Governor and party, with Messrs. Bolton and Risley of the Secretariat, arrived here from Darjeeling yesterday, the engine was started unexpectedly, and two native children were killed and several others injured. The engine ran off the metals and only brought up against a house.

Allahabad, July 5.

Major Sheraton, Rifle Brigade, D. A. A. G. for Instruction, Ranikhet, is likely to officiate as Assistant Adjutant-General, Meerut District, vice Colonel Brownrigg, transferred temporarily to the head-quarters, Punjab Command.

London, July 6.

The Spanish Government has gradually broken the news of the disaster to Admiral Cervera's fleet.

The Cabinet at a meeting yesterday evening decided to continue the war at all costs as long as a Spanish soldier remained in Cuba.

Telegrams from Madrid state that there is a disorderly spirit among the military, and the crowds in the city are becoming riotous. The population are arming.

The palace at Madrid is now guarded by additional troops.

It is expected that General Campos will form a Cabinet, and will make proposals for peace.

London, July 6.

The French transatlantic liner "La Bourgogne" from New York bound for Havre, came into collision with the ship "Cromartyshire" on the 4th instant in a dense fog south of Sable Island. The "La Bourgogne" sank immediately. There were 300 passengers aboard the "La Bourgogne" besides the crew, and only 170 passengers and 30 of the crew were saved. Only one woman was rescued, and all the officers of the ship, except the purser and three engineers, were drowned.

The loss of life by the sinking of the French liner "La Bourgogne" is estimated at 525. Frightful confusion arose when the collision

occurred, all on board fighting to get into the boats.

Karachi, July 6.

Returns for the 6th show cases nil, deaths nil; totals to date, cases 2,997, deaths 2,352: a most satisfactory return considering that all the pukka built houses have been reoccupied. It seems safe to predict a clean bill of health by the 14th instant, on which date Major General Cooke, President of the Plague Committee, is leaving on three months' privilege leave, and the Commissioner goes to Poona to take Mr. Nugent's place on the Council.

The Plague Committee record their high appreciation of the unvarying care, kindness and sympathy shown by Mrs. Ball (wife of the Rev. A. Ball, C. M. S.) in her work at the Convalescent Hospital, of which she had charge during the period of its continuance.

Calcutta, July 6.

There were 3 seizures and no deaths from plague on Tuesday. The Lieutenant Governor went the round of the public and private plague hospitals this morning. The business activity is now normal, even the scared Marwaris taking their old part in operations in the native share market. It has now been decided by the Corporation that, before a case of suspected plague is removed to hospital, information is to be sent to the Vigilance Committee of the Wards.

London, July 9.

The rumours of peace negotiations between the American and Spanish Governments are denied at Madrid.

Mr. Alger, the American Secretary of State for War, has received a telegram from General Shafter, indicating that negotiations for the capitulation of Santiago are proceeding.

London, July 10.

Two regiments with six batteries of artillery from Tampa have arrived at Santiago to reinforce General Shafter's army.

President McKinley, after conferring with Mr. Alger, the Secretary of State for War, has decided that America is unable to entertain the Spanish proposal for allowing the garrison of Santiago to retreat. The President, therefore, demands the unconditional surrender of the Spanish garrison.

There is great depression in Madrid. The Ministers of War and Marine are the only members of the Cabinet in favour of the continuance of the war, Senor Sagasta, the Premier, being undecided.

London, July, 10.

Advice from Peking state that Russia's latest threat to seize Kulday has caused the greatest consternation amongst the Chinese, who now declare that it is better for China to die immediately than to suffer the torture of losing limb after limb. It is, however, considered possible that Mr. Pavoff, the acting Russian Minister to China, has exceeded his instructions in view of the fact that he is summarily finishing the negotiations with which he has been entrusted by his Government.

London, July 9.

The rising of the Black Flags in Kwangsi and Ywanguan is assuming grave proportions. It is believed that the rebellion is largely due to the collection of the *liken* dues. The rebels have captured Monging and Tienpak and are now surrounding Wuchuanhsien in

the Kwantung province. Many *liken* officials have been killed. Disorder has also arisen at Shinkiang (? Chinkiang) in the Yangtse valley, where the Chinese are impeding the navigation of the river.

Karachi, July 9.

Returns for the 9th again show a blank entirely; totals to date, cases 3006, deaths 2,358.

Karachi, July 10.

Returns for the 10th show cases 1, deaths 0; totals to date, cases 3,007, deaths 2,358.

Calcutta, July 10.

There were 2 fresh cases and 6 deaths from plague officially recorded on Friday. Saturday's returns were 5 seizures and 2 deaths.

Bombay, June 11.

There were 7 and 8 attacks and 6 and 5 deaths reported from plague in Bombay on Saturday and Sunday respectively.

London, July 7.

The Spanish war ship "Reina Mercedes," last of Admiral Cervera's squadron, attempted to leave Santiago on Monday at midnight, but was immediately sunk by the American fleet, and now lies partly submerged at the entrance to the harbour.

Marshal Blanco has issued a manifesto, in which he declares that he would rather die than surrender.

The United States Senate has passed the resolution adopted by the House of Representatives on the 16th June in favour of the annexation of Hawaii.

Commodore Watson's squadron has been ordered to sail forth with for Spain. It is now decided to defer the assault upon Santiago.

Lieutenant Hobson and his men, who were taken prisoners by the Spaniards when the "Merrimac" was sunk in the harbour of Santiago, have been released in exchange for Spanish prisoners.

Karachi, July 7.

Returns for the 7th show cases 1, deaths 1; totals to date, cases 2,998 deaths 2,353.

Calcutta, July 7.

No seizures or deaths from plague were recorded on Wednesday.

Bombay, July 8.

There were 6 cases and 10 deaths reported from plague in Bombay yesterday.

London, July 8.

A telegram from the American camp at Santiago says that firing was not resumed yesterday, though the truce is supposed to have ended, both armies having been informed that the Governments at Washington and Madrid are negotiating terms of peace.

SUPPLEMENT.

Contributed articles on important themes and items of news will be thankfully received. All communications should be addressed to the Editor, Nur Afshan, Ludhiana.

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